

Boston Recorder.

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NO. 9.—VOL. XXVII.

RELIGIOUS.

[For the Boston Recorder.]

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Letter from the Rev. Dr. Lowell, of Boston, to one of the Secretaries of the A. B. C. F. Missions.

BOSTON, FEB. 5th, 1842.

My Dear Sir,—the death of our respected friend L. Gov. Winthrop, has interrupted our meetings in reference to the Greeks, but it has not diminished, I am sure, the interest we feel in them, or made us less anxious that their cry for help should be heard and responded to, by those whose spiritual privileges are greater than theirs.

When I was in Athens, I was introduced by friend Mr. Perdicaris, to the celebrated chief-maestro of the school which he founded, adapted to the wants of the Greeks. At this time, he was expressing his thanks and deep emotion, his gratitude to my country, and to the successor who had afforded the Greek nation, whilst struggling for independence, and for the interest manifested by the Christian community here, in the intellectual and moral regeneration of Greece. He spoke of the school which had been established by the A. B. C. F. M. in his native country, Maina, and of the great good it had done within its limited sphere, and of the earnest desire of the Mainotes that it might prove the precursor of the extensive diffusion of the means of education among them.

On my visiting Athens a second time, on my return from Egypt and Syria, the aged chief, hearing of my arrival, and fearing that I might again call him, came himself to my lodgings, to repeat the object of our former conversations. I can never forget the kindling eye, the earnest gesture, the earnest expression, the frank eloquence of the old man, as he urged the claims of his countrymen upon my sympathy, and through me, as he trusted, upon the sympathy of the American public.

My first discourse to my people after my return home, I briefly presented these claims, as well as the claims of missions generally in the region I had visited, and determined to follow up these indications, both in the pulpit, and from the press.

The dispensation of Providence, requiring nearly all my time for domestic duties, which was not occupied by parochial labors, have prevented me, hitherto, from fulfilling my purpose.

At a season of much anxiety of mind, I received a letter from Maurovoulos. It was shown to several friends in whom I thought it might interest them, and I was greatly gratified, my trust, with the kindred feelings towards one another. They have, indeed, the same object—not to make proselytes to their denomination, but converts to vital, evangelical religion.

I transmit you a copy of it for publication, and as it is a voice from Sparta, in tones touching and eloquent, I trust it will not be uttered in vain.

"My honored and reverend Sir,

"Having had the good fortune of becoming personally acquainted with you during your visit at Athens, and having witnessed your zeal for the cause of education in Greece in general, and in my native Sparta in particular, I take the liberty to recall myself to you by my present letter, and to request that you would be so good as to interest the benevolent institutions of America, the friends of Greece, in the Sparta, and induce them to contribute to the sum required for the establishment of common schools in Lacedaemon, which, owing to the poverty of the people, is unable to secure the blessings of education, and that we when the inhabitants, though ignorant, have been made deficient in love of learning.

"The common school established at Areopoli, the capital of Lacedaemon, by your praiseworthy countrymen, the Rev. Mr. Houston and the Rev. Mr. Leavenworth, is making good progress, and is promising much for that part of the country; but, owing to its limited means, its benefits are confined to the Deines of the capital, and to a few neighboring districts. The increase of means will necessarily tend to increase the sphere of education. The desire which I feel in my old age and its consequent humility, is to aid my compatriots in acquiring the blessings of education, without which they cannot be truly happy; and for this aid of this object, I address myself to you, and entreat your co-operation, with sincere esteem.

Very respectfully yours,

PETRONIUS MAXIMILLIANUS."

Myriamclaus alludes to my " zeal for the cause of education in Greece." I should have been cold indeed, if I could have visited the most interesting institution of Mr. and Mrs. Hill, the Episcopal missionaries in Athens, and the school which the Greeks themselves, in their zeal, have got up, without having my spirit stirred within me. No description can give an adequate idea of the enthusiasm of that ardor with which the young Greeks engage in the pursuit of learning—imbibing the spirit, as in many instances they bear the names of their renowned ancestors. The schools are overflowing, and hundreds are pressing for admission, who may be desirous of placing their talents in the hands of industry, to which they are most peculiarly adapted to the service of their country.

The late Sultan died of *delirium tremens*. I was in Constantinople at the time of his death, and had constant I have stated, from undoubted authority, that there any enlightened and virtuous American who would exchange his condition with that of a follower of Mohammedan?

There are those, again, who think that all we have to give should be given to Home Missions.

The homely proverb is often quoted, "Charity begins at home." It is true, but it does not end there.

The same may be said of the poor in the East.

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make out upwards of 40, who drunkard's grave. And then who received the drunkards of these vendors, have gone to only be conjectured!

A correspondent of the "Ver-

itas" proposes that these meetings be a prayer, and reading a portion common; and then, that any question, or subject for con-

vening, or, in case no brother

should be present be enqui-

ry, and let him answer, per-

sonally and embarrassment,

to present such advantages

as opportunity to any brother, or

bring forward any subject on

the thoughts of brethren of

the sound views—it promotes

it has more or less reflec-

tion of thought among the breth-

ren—it promotes mental acivi-

ty, and apathy of indifference,

for public speaking, and

to the pastor—especially in

Sabbath evening, when the

labor of the day. Three

worked during the meeting.

NEWSPAPERS.—The Concord

directly that a single newspa-

per, at least four times the quan-

ty many of the Monthly maga-

zines, or 16 times as much or

more of the year. Were the

proportioned to the amount

it would be \$16 a year. It

is that the newspaper be paid

cheerfully and punctually

DEVOLVENT SOCIETIES.—The

societies was held at Char-

lesburg, on the 25th, Dr. Packard presiding.

of the parent societies were

at the meeting. From the re-

ports it appeared that for the

year had been collected \$26,

society \$133,16; for the Bible

and Domestic Missions \$132,

in Missions \$232,52—total

an increase of \$146,17 over

the last year. An encou-

ring the established character of

the societies toward objects of Clini-

cians.—A correspondent of the

"Christian in prison," says,

we have visited the jail

one or two exceptions, and

the week. We always have

with the prisoners on the

and preach as often as circum-

We have distributed among

90 religious tracts, about 100

and a considerable number

of these means of grace

received, and manifestly well

60 now in prison, not more

in the Washington Temper-

ance are committed in con-

suming liquors, more or less

the same proportion come out

the banner. A few of these have

relations.

—The Vermont Chroni-

cal.—What is the duty of a

those persons, who from any

made a profession of religion,

and regard themselves as ne-

cessary of regenerating grace,

and satisfactory evidence of being

not to be doubted, that there is

on for starting the question;

and that the same reason may

strength as the year rolls round,

it can suddenly open to the

"obtain a hope" in a season

of despondency.

REVIVALS OF RELIGION.

Port Penn and Cawelt's Bridge, Del.—We un-

derstand that the grace of God has com-

mitted work more in the city, Dr. F. C. congregation,

goes on with interest. There is much deep

rooting in the great interests of salvation among

the people of his charge.

The Presbyterian Church at Eliz., Md., under

the pastoral care of the Rev. James McIntyre, we

have enjoyed a blessed season of revival, simi-

lar to that which we experienced in

our various societies, a few planters are

accomplish the same object.

It will be well supported. Where

is ready to go?

The two landlords in Hudson,

their names to the Temperance

and all liquors from their bars,

stop strict Temperance bars,

and abstinence, to the number of

approbation of their course, and

part, partook of a dinner at the

February, at which numerous

and speeches made, proving

real feeling and good fellowship

the cup, but on the conse-

quence of the laws of heaven.

is a subject of frequent remark

that so many Members of Con-

gress, recently conduct, while enga-

ged themselves unwor-

thy committed to them; and

offered by Christians, that

things might arise. It may be

as an encouragement to further

that, recently in our own

of talents, integrity and

in important stations, much

who promoted them, as well,

love, for the advantage of the

the cause referred to, we

the Rev. J. Hubbard, as Judge of the

J. M. Willis, as Regis-

ter, H. Walley, Jr., as Speaker of

the House.

Twenty-five or thirty have been hopefully con-

verted in a revival in Royallston, Mass.

In Westfield an extensive revival is said to have

been in progress for some time, and that several

reformed individuals have been the subjects of the

their responsible duties.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

MONDAY, FEB. 28.—In the House.

The House, Feb. 28, 1842.

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POETRY.

[For the Boston Recorder.]
God hath given us exceeding great and precious Promises. 2 Pet. 1, 4.

Upon the Promises I've hung,
With most intense delight,
They have my morning song become—
My pillow for the night.
They have sustai'd my fainting soul,
In deep distress and pain;—
Have made my wounded spirit whole,
And cheer'd my heart again.
They have reliev'd my aching breast,
When mourning o'er the dead;—
Have sooth'd my feelings into rest,
And dried the tears I shed.
They have prov'd true when man deceiv'd,
Through every change, and state;
In them I've trusted—hop'd—believe'd,
And never felt regret.
Through life that yet remains to me,
In God I will confide;
And when the hand of death I see,
His Promise will provide. D. F.
Ashfield, Aug. 26, 1841.

EVENING PRAYER AT A GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Now is my youth beneath of him
Who giveth, upboreth me.
That his right in thy heart become not dim,
And his love be unforget;

And when the hand of death of days, will be
Greenness, and beauty, and strength to them.
—
[Benedictus Barto]

Hush! 'tis a holy hour—the quiet room
Seems like a temple, while you soft lamp sheds
A faint and starry radiance, through the gloom
And the sweet stillness, down on bright young
heads.

With all their clustering locks, untouched by care,
And bowed—as flowers are bowed with night—in
prayer.

Gaze on, 'tis lovely!—childhood's lips and cheek,
Mantling beneath its earnest brow of thought;

Gaze, yet what seemest thou in those fair, and meek,
And fragile things, as but for sunshine wrought?

Thou seest what grief must morte for the sky?

What death must fashion for eternity?

Joyous creatures! that will sink to rest
Lightly, when those pure orisons are done,

As if the honey-dew oppressed;

Midst the dim folded leaves, at set of sun;

Lift up your hearts—though yet no sorrow lies
Dark in the summer-heaven of those clear eyes.

Though fresh within your breast the untroubled
springs

Of hope make melody where'er ye tread,

And/or your sleep bright shadows, from the wings

Of spirits visiting but youth, be spread;

Yet in those flute-like voices, mingling low,

Is woman's tenderness—low soon her wo?

Her lot is on you!—silent tears to weep;

And patient smiles to wear through suffering's

And sunless riches, from affection's deep,

To pour on broken heads the wasted shower;

And to make idols, and to find them clay;

And to bewail that worship—those we pray!

Her lot is on you!—to be found uniting,

Watching the stars out by the bed of pain,

With a pale cheek, and yet a brow inspired;

And a true heart of hope, though hope be vain!

Weekly to bear with wrong, to cheer decay,

And, oh! to love through all things!—therefore
pray!

And take the thought of this calm vesper-time,

With its low murmuring sounds and silvery light,

On though the dark days fading from their prime,

As a sweet dew to keep your souls from blight!

Earth will forsake!—Oh! happy to have given

The unbroken heart's first fragrance unto heaven.

MISCELLANY.

[For the Boston Recorder.]
THE MINISTER'S DINNER.
By LUCIA JANE PARSONS.

The Reverend Mr. N. — was a man of excellent temper, genuine feelings and well cultivated mind, but he was eccentric even to oddity. He was a powerful preacher, and his ministrations were blest to the reformation of many in his parish. At the age of thirty-four he became enamored of a beautiful light-hearted girl of seventeen, daughter to one of his richest parishioners, who he imagined that to refuse the hand of the minister would be a sin bordering hard upon the unpardonable. Well, the marriage was consummated, the bride's fat portion paid; and the husband, as husbands in their first love are apt to do, gave in to the humor of his wife, and accompanied her to several festive parties given by wealthy neighbors, in honor of his marriage.

The happy couple were sitting together in their comfortable parlor, one evening toward spring, the reverend gentleman styling the Reverend Bede, and his wife equally intent upon a plate of the latest fashions, when she suddenly looked in with an expression between hope and fear, and thus addressed her companion,

"My dear husband I have a request to make."

"What is it, Nancy, any thing consistent?"

"You do not imagine that I would make an inconsistent request, surely?"

"No—not a request that you consider inconsistant. But come, what is it?"

"Why, my dear sir," and her voice trembled a little, "we have been to several parties among the neighboring gentry, and now I think that to maintain our position in society we should make a party too." The minister looked blank.

"What sort of a party, Nancy?" he said at length.

"Why," she replied, "such a party as those we have attended. We must make an elegant dinner, and have dancing after it."

"Dancing! in a minister's house?" ejaculated Mr. N. —

"Why, yes, certainly," replied his wife complacently. "You will not dance, the party will be mine; and then we have been to similar parties all winter."

"True, true," he muttered with a perplexed air, sat silent for some time as if considering. At length he spoke. "Yes, Nancy, you may make a party, give a dinner, and if the guests desire it you may dance."

"Thank you, love," she cried, putting her arms around his neck.

"But I have some stipulations to make about it," he said; "I must select and invite the guests, and you must allow me to receive some of my favorite dishes upon the table."

"All as you please, love," she answered, delightedly, "but when shall it be?"

"Next Wednesday if you please."

"But our furniture and window draperies are very old fashioned. Is it not time we had new?"

"I should think it hardly necessary to furnish our rooms, Nancy. All our furniture is excellent of its kind."

"But our smooth carpets, white draperies, and can chairs have such a cold look, do consent to have the rooms new fitted; we can move these things to our unfurnished chambers."

"And of what use will they be in those rooms which we never occupy? Besides, it is near spring, and fit up now for winter is superfluous."

"Well, I would not care," she persisted, "only people will call us paupers and ungentle."

"Oh, if that is all," he said gaily, "I will promise to expend a thousand dollars on the evening of the party, not in furniture, but in a manner which will be far more grateful to our guests, and profitable to ourselves, and which shall exonerate us from all imputation of parsimony; and you may expend in dress, establish a decent dress just what sum you please."

And so the colloquy ended. He resumed his studies, and she gave her mind to the consideration of the dress which would be most becoming; and the viands that were most expensive. The next day she went

busily about her preparations, wondering all the time how her husband would expend his thousand dollars; but as she had discovered something of the eccentricity of his character, she doubted not that he meant to give an agreeable surprise; and her curiosity grew so great that she could hardly sleep during the interval.

At length the momentous day arrived. The arrangements were all complete, and Mrs. N. — retired to perform the all-important business of arraying her fine person in fine attire. She lingered long at the toilette, relying on the fashionable unpunctuality of fashionable people, and when the hour struck, left her chamber arrayed like Judith of old gloriously, to allure the eyes of all who should look upon her, and full of sweet similes and graces, notwithstanding the uncomfortable pinching of her shoes and corsets. Her husband met her in the hall.

"Our guests have all arrived," he said, and opened the door of the receiving room. "Wonderful! wonderful! What a grand assembly! There were congregated the cripple, the maimed, and the blind; the palsied, the extreme aged, and a group of children from the almshouse, who regarded the fine lady, some with wide open mouths, others with both hands in their hair, while some peeped from behind furniture, to the covert of which they had retreated from her dazzling presence. She was petrified with astonishment; then a dash of displeasure crossed her face, till having ran her eyes over the grotesque assembly, she met the comically grave expression of her husband's countenance, when she burst into a violent fit of laughter, during the paroxysms of which the bursting of her corset laces could be distinctly heard by the company.

"Nancy!" at length said her husband, sternly. She suppressed her mirth, stammered an excuse, and added,

"You will forgive me, and believe yourselves quite welcome."

"That is well done," whispered Mr. N. —, then, "my friends" he said, "as my wife is not acquainted with you I will make a few presentations." Then leading her toward the piano, he said, "This gentleman, Nancy, is the Reverend Mr. Niles, who in his youth travelled and endured much in the cause of our common Master. A violent rheumatism, induced by colds contracted among the new settlements of the west, where he was employed in preaching the gospel to the poor, has reduced him to his present condition. This lady, his wife, has pleasantly sustained him, and by her own labor procured a maintenance for herself and him. But she is old and feeble now as you see."

Then turning to a group with silver locks and threadbare coats, he continued, "These are soldiers of the revolution. They were all sons of rich men. They went out in their young strength to defend their oppressed country. They endured hardships, toils, and sufferings, such as we hardly deem it possible for men to endure and live; they returned home at the close of the war, maimed in their limbs, and with broken constitutions, to find their patriots destroyed by fire, or the chances of war, or their property otherwise snatched and wrested from them. And these worthy men live in poverty and neglect in the land for the property of which they are stripped bare. All these venerable ladies are wives of these patriots, and widows of others who have given their lives in the world within a short space, which but for some such plan, might either be unoccupied, or if on the shelf of the library, left there unperused and useless. Arrangements should be made by which all who are unprovided may be supplied with the volumes selected.

The Plan.

Let the pastor, or officers or members of a church, or the head of a family, select a particular book of standard practical value, most generally possessed, or which can be economically obtained—for example as "Baxter's Call to the Unconverted," or the "Saints' Rest," the "Pilgrim's Progress," or "Rise and Progress,"—with the understanding that every member of the church and congregation, or family, will read it attentively and prayerfully within a specified time, say one month for a small volume, and two months for a larger one. If the pastor of a church should deliver a discourse on the general subject of the volume in course of reading, it would serve to deepen the interest in it, and fix the minds of the people to make every exertion in their power to render the address more satisfactory to all those who may be interested in it.

One youth received eight or ten books in succession coming at several times to be examined in what he had read of some of the larger books. This mode of distribution has afforded a good opportunity for religious conversation, and much religious instruction has been given.

Our native assistants have also been much engaged in going out to the neighboring villages to talk to the people and distribute tracts and Scriptures. They are much interested in this work, and we hope the knowledge of the truth is extending by this means. If we have not funds to print our Tracts, both they and we shall be deprived of a very important part of our power.

The Plan will receive particular attention.

Board in good families, from \$1.25 to \$1.50.

PEPPERELL ACADEMY.

THE Spring Term of this Institution will commence on Tuesday, the 3rd of March next, under the care of Mr. M. L. PEPPERELL, Jr., who graduated at Dartmouth College, last summer, and is well qualified to render the services to make every exertion in their power to render the address more satisfactory to all those who may be interested in it.

For information of the English branches, 42 cts. per week—

French, Drawing and Painting, each 25 cts. per week—Music, 15 cts. per week—Latin, 10 cts. per week—Greek, \$1.00 per quarter.

French, \$1.00 additional.

Board in good families, from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per week.

E. HALE BARSTOW, Principal.

Groton, Mass. Feb. 25, 1842. 3w.

[For the Boston Recorder.]

SIMULTANEOUS READING.

It is a painful fact, that with the multiplicity of books and papers of a light, amusing character, so generally possessed, the standard spiritual classics, circulated by the American Tract Society and through other channels, are too often unperused, or are read in a cursory and profitless manner. A habit of reading for amusement or mental excitement has in many cases become so firmly fixed, that it can only be broken up by this occasion to present the Society one thousand dollars for tracts and books abroad; for he felt that the presses in operation, and the native and other distributors employed at different stations, and depending on the Society for support, must not be stopped. The officers of the Society thanked God and took courage; and resolved to renew their own contributions and efforts, trusting in God to incline others to whom he has given means to contribute liberally; and hoping that all the friends of this cause, according to their ability, will give it their support.

Concurrent Appeal from India.

In the present wants of the American Tract Society, when scarcely one fifth of the \$30,000 proposed to be raised for foreign distribution for the year ending April 15 has been received, a benevolent gentleman has called to avail himself of the opportunity to present the Society one thousand dollars for tracts and books abroad; for he felt that the presses in operation, and the native and other distributors employed at different stations, and depending on the Society for support, must not be stopped.

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